I'am apposed to this and any other petition to eliminate the Morse code requirement. One of our obligations as licensed radio operators is to be able to provide communication under emergency conditions. The morse Code is the MOST reliable, simplistic mode of communication that there is. If need be, with the Morse code one could communicate by flash light, tapping on a wall or table top, blinking ones eye's (as in the case of Senator Denton)or even by way of mouth. A small but quite usuable code transmitter can be assembled with just a few small parts and provide useable communications or signaling, that isn't possible with ANY other mode.

I also feel that if the rest of the world does away with the Morse code and we retain it, it could possibly be to our advantage under conditions of war. Inshort, there are more possible reasons to retain the requirement, than there are to do away with it.

I've been a licensed operator (WB8JKR) for 32 years, I have NEVER once seen an instance where a person was kept out of Amateur Radio because of the code other than the times where the individual simply didn't want to learn it. That's no reason to lower the standards. PLEASE retain the code requirement.